



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY
GOVERNOR

LYNDO TIPPETT
SECRETARY

July 31, 2008

Mr. Thomas Taylor
T&B Structural Systems, LLC
6800 Manhattan Boulevard
Suite 304
Fort Worth, TX 76120

Subject: Approval of T&B's Stabilized Earth Wall (SEW) System

Dear Mr. Taylor:

The Geotechnical Engineering Unit (GEU) has fully approved T&B's Stabilized Earth Wall (SEW) System for use on North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) projects in accordance with the "NCDOT Policy for Mechanically Stabilized Earth Retaining Walls". This policy may be obtained from:

<http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/highway/geotech/msewalls/>

While a Highway Innovative Technology Evaluation Center (HITEC) report is not available for the SEW System, typical details, material specifications, example calculations and a field construction manual have been submitted and this approval is based on NCDOT's experience with the system before implementation of the NCDOT MSE Retaining Wall Policy in December, 2007.

The following materials are defined as miscellaneous components in accordance with NCDOT's Standard Mechanically Stabilized Earth Retaining Walls Special Provision.

- Neoprene Bearing Pads
- Dowels for coping
- Panel Anchors
- Filter Fabric
- Alignment and Connection Pins

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GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING UNIT
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ENTRANCE B-2
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Miscellaneous components provided by T&B Structural Systems are required and approved for use. While the MSE Retaining Walls Special Provision prohibits splices in the reinforcement, the connection just behind the panels between the reinforcement mats and panel anchors is not considered a splice and will be allowed. The provision may be obtained from:
<http://www.ncdot.org/doh/preconstruct/highway/geotech/provnote/>

If you have any questions, I can be reached at (919) 250-4088.

Sincerely,



Njoroge W. Wainaina
State Geotechnical Engineer

cc: K. J. Kim, Ph.D., P.E., Eastern Regional Geotechnical Manager (w/ submittal)
John Pilipchuk, L.G., P.E., Western Regional Geotechnical Manager (w/ submittal)
Eric Williams, P.E., Geotechnical Design Supervisor (w/ submittal)
Greg Perfetti, P.E., State Bridge Design Engineer
Dave Henderson, P.E., State Hydraulics Engineer
Cecil Jones, P.E., State Materials Engineer
Rodger Rochelle, P.E., State Alternative Delivery Engineer
Tommy Cozart, P.E., Special Design Engineering Supervisor
Randy Garriss, P.E., State Contract Officer
Mike Robinson, P.E., State Bridge Construction Engineer
Dan Holderman, P.E., State Bridge Management Engineer